

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claim 2 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter and amend the remaining claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method of determining a configuration profile for an electronic document processing peripheral, the configuration profile representing a set of configuration parameters defining an operating mode of the peripheral, a set of fixed values of the parameters defining a particular configuration of the peripheral, said method implemented in a communication network that includes at least one client station, at least on server station and at least on processing peripheral comprising the steps of:

- obtaining (504) a user identification data item from a request sent by a client station operated by said user;

- determining (506) user characteristics as a function of the user identification data item;

- obtaining a peripheral identification data item;

- determining (508), as a function of the user characteristics and of the peripheral identification data item, a configuration profile applicable for configuring the operating mode of the peripheral for a document processing request coming from said user; and

- sending (516) the configuration profile determined to the client station operated by said user.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 1[[2]], wherein the

peripheral identification data item is extracted (504) from the request sent by a client station to the server station, the request being a document processing request or a request to obtain a configuration profile.

4. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 3 ~~either one of Claims 2 or 3~~, wherein said steps of determining user characteristics and determining a configuration profile are accomplished by means of a database (44, 46) in which there are stored, associated together, peripheral data each representing an identity of a peripheral, user data representing user characteristics, and configuration data each representing a configuration profile.

5. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 1[[2]], further comprising the step of:

- if required by the client station, updating (604, 606) a configuration of the peripheral in a context of the configuration profile applicable.

6. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 5, wherein said configuration updating step includes:

- receiving (500) from the client station a request for obtaining the configuration profile applicable;
- determining and sending (508, 516) to the client station the configuration profile applicable; and
- receiving (600) from the client station the configuration profile applicable with a parameter having a modified value.

7. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 1[[2]], wherein the user identification data item is a chain of characters identifying a user and a password entered by the user in order to connect the user to the client station.

8. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the user characteristics indicate a level of service subscribed to by a user.

9. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 8, wherein a level of service subscribed to by a user is defined according to a financial sum paid by the user.

10. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 1[[2]], wherein the peripheral identification data item is a network address of the peripheral.

11. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 4, wherein the configuration data each represent a configuration profile indicate an electronic address of a computer object containing a configuration profile.

12. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 1[[2]], wherein the network is an Internet.

13. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 11, wherein the client station and the server station communicate using an HTTP protocol.

14. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 13, wherein the electronic address of a computer object containing a configuration profile is an address of a uniform resource locator (URL) type, and the computer object is an object defined in an annotation language of an extended mark-up language (XML) type.

15. (Currently amended) A method of obtaining a configuration profile determined according to a method as defined in Claim 1[[2]], comprising the following steps implemented in a client station:

- generating and sending (400-410) to the server station a request to configure an electronic document processing peripheral, the request including a user identification data item and a peripheral identification data item; and
- receiving (412, 414) a configuration profile of the peripheral from the server station, in response to the configuration request.

16. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 15, further comprising the steps of:

- displaying (416) the configuration profile; and
- modifying (420, 422) a current configuration associated with the configuration profile.

17. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 16, in which the peripheral configuration uses a peripheral driver, further comprising the step of, when the peripheral driver is stored in the server station:

- sending (434) to the server station the configuration profile containing the modified configuration.

18. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 16, in which the configuration of the peripheral uses a peripheral driver, further comprising the step of, when the peripheral driver is locally stored in the client station:

- using (426) the configuration profile for configuring the peripheral driver.

19. (Previously presented) A method of configuring an electronic document processing peripheral, said method comprising determining a configuration profile in accordance with Claim 1.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently amended) A device for determining a configuration profile for an electronic document processing peripheral, the configuration profile representing a set of configuration parameters defining an operating mode of the peripheral, a set of fixed values of the parameters defining a particular configuration of the peripheral in a communication network that includes at least one client station, at least one server station and at least one processing peripheral, said device comprising:

- means (42) for obtaining a user identification data item from a request sent by a client station operated by said user;

- means for obtaining a peripheral identification data item;

- means (42, 46) for determining user characteristics as a function of the user identification data item;

- means (42, 44, 46) for determining, as a function of the user characteristics and the peripheral identification data item, a configuration profile applicable for configuring the operating mode of the peripheral for a document processing request coming from said user; and

- means for sending the configuration profile determined to the client station operated by said user.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently amended) A device for determining a configuration profile for an electronic document processing peripheral, the configuration profile representing a set of configuration parameters for the peripheral, a set of fixed values of the parameters defining a particular configuration of the peripheral in a communication network that includes at least one client station, at least one server station and at least one processing peripheral, said device comprising:

- means (42) for obtaining a user identification data item;

- means for obtaining a peripheral identification data item;

- means (42, 46) for determining user characteristics as a function of the user identification data item;

- means (42, 44, 46) for determining, as a function of the user characteristics and the peripheral identification data item, a configuration profile applicable for configuring the peripheral;

- means for obtaining (504) a peripheral identification data item, such that a configuration profile applicable is determined (508) as a function of the user characteristics and the peripheral identification data item; and

- means for determining a configuration profile,

- means for sending the configuration profile determined to the client station operated by said user,

wherein the user identification data item and the peripheral identification data item are extracted (504) from a request sent by a client station operated by the user to a server station, the request being a document processing request or a request to obtain a configuration profile.

24 to 25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently amended) A device for configuring an electronic document processing peripheral, wherein said device includes a device for determining a configuration profile for an electronic document processing peripheral, the configuration profile representing a set of configuration parameters defining an operating mode of the peripheral, a set of fixed values of the parameters defining a particular configuration of the peripheral in a communication network that includes at least one client station, at least one server station and at least one processing peripheral, said device for determining a configuration profile comprising:

- means (42) for obtaining a user identification data item from a request sent by a client station operated by said user;

- means for obtaining a peripheral identification data item;

- means (42, 46) for determining user characteristics as a function of the user identification data item;

- means (42, 44, 46) for determining, as a function of the user characteristics and the peripheral identification data item, a configuration profile applicable for configuring the operating mode of the peripheral for a document processing request coming from said user ; and

-means for sending the configuration profile determined to the client station operated by said user.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently amended) A server station connected to a communication network, said server station comprising a device for determining a configuration profile for an electronic document processing peripheral, the configuration profile representing a set of configuration parameters defining an operating mode of the peripheral, a set of fixed values of the parameters defining a particular configuration of the peripheral in a communication network that includes at least one client station, at least one server station and at least one processing peripheral, said device comprising:

- means (42) for obtaining a user identification data item from a request sent by a client station operated by said user;

- means for obtaining a peripheral identification data item;

- means (42, 46) for determining user characteristics as a function of the user identification data item;

- means (42, 44, 46) for determining, as a function of the user characteristics and



the peripheral identification data item, a configuration profile applicable for configuring the operating mode of the peripheral for a document processing request coming from said user, and

-means for sending the configuration profile determined to the client station operated by said user.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Currently amended) A communication network comprising:

at least one processing peripheral;

a server station; and

a client station,

wherein said server station includes a device for determining a configuration profile for the [[an]] electronic document processing peripheral, the configuration profile representing a set of configuration parameters,

defining an operation mode of the peripheral, a set of fixed values of the parameters defining a particular configuration of the peripheral, the device comprising:

means (42) for obtaining a user identification data item from a request sent by a client station operated by said user,

- means for obtaining a peripheral identification data item;

means (42, 46) for determining user characteristics as a function of the user identification data item, and

means (42, 44, 46) for determining, as a function of the user characteristics and the peripheral identification data item, a configuration profile applicable for

configuring the operating mode of the peripheral for a document processing request coming from said user and means for sending the configuration profile determined to the client station operated by said user,

and wherein said client station includes a device for obtaining a configuration profile for an electronic document processing peripheral, the configuration profile representing a set of configuration parameters defining an operating mode of the peripheral, a set of fixed values of the parameters defining a particular configuration of the peripheral,

;

said device comprising:

- means (36) for generating and sending to the server station a request for configuration of an electronic document processing peripheral, the request containing a user identification data item and a peripheral identification data item;

- means (38) for receiving a configuration profile of the peripheral from the server station, in response to the request for configuration.

31 to 35. (Canceled)